

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY
109 Market Street, Room 106, Denton, Maryland

MINUTES
August 14, 2018

Present: President Larry C. Porter, Wilbur Levengood, Jr., Vice President; Daniel J. Franklin; Commissioner; County Administrator Ken Decker; Chief of Staff Sara Visintainer; and County Attorney, Heather Price

Following the pledge of Allegiance, President Porter called for **Public Comment** and the following members of the audience came to the podium: Lisa Braxton, Preston Resident, stated that she and her husband who live near Jonestown and are concerned for the safety of the citizens due to the lack of street lights. She stated that vandalism occurred on July 13th when watermelons were thrown at several mailboxes. Ms. Braxton stated that she hopes the County will be able to help the citizens of Jonestown or point them in the best direction to have a safe neighborhood.

Commissioner Porter stated that the area of Hickman had an issue with the lack of street lights and the County did not pay for the lights, however several residents put personal money into purchasing lights which are still running today. The Commissioners stated that they do not currently have money in the budget to purchase street lights, however they would work with the area to make sure it is being properly patrolled by the Caroline County Sheriff's Office.

Proclamation of August 17-18 as Caroline County Summerfest Days and Review of Summerfest Schedule: Sue Simmons, Direction, Caroline County Recreation and Parks, stated that Caroline County Summerfest would be celebrating its 30th year in 2018. She stated that the theme for the 30th anniversary is "30 Years of Magic." Ms. Simmons thanked the Commissioners for continuing to allow her and Recreation and Parks staff to create such a fun family-oriented event each year in Caroline County. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Simmons and her staff for working hard each year to pull off such a wonderful and fun two-day event.

Public Hearing: Proposed Amendment to the Caroline County Water and Sewerage Plan-Detention Center Pump Station Project: Sara Visintainer, Chief of Staff, stated that the Planning Commission has recommended amending the Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan (CWSP) to amend the Sewer System Priority Inventory to include information about the planned repair and upgrade to the Detention Center Pump Station. The purpose of the project is to retrofit and upgrade the jail's wastewater treatment system to modern standards and provide redundant protections to avoid the discharge of contaminants and/or nutrients that pose health or environmental threats. Construction will be funded through a grant and a loan agreement with MDE. The CWSP must be amended to reflect this as a priority in order to enable the project funding. She stated that no prior testimony was received before the hearing. Commissioners Porter stated that no one signed up to speak on the proposed amendment and called for comment. There being none, the Commissioners closed the hearing. The Commissioners asked staff to draft a formal resolution to adopt the Amendment during their August 28, 2018 County Commissioners Meeting.

Update on Caroline County Tech Park: Debbie Bowden, Caroline County Economic Development Director, stated that the County has been approached by a business who would like to place a compost processing operation at the Ridgely Tech Park. She stated that the facility would be composting animal and food waste and turning it into energy. The Commissioners stated that they would like Ms. Bowden to learn more about the official business plan before moving forward with the location.

On motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood the Commissioners moved into **legislative session** for the following: **Third Reading and Potential Enactment: Ordinance #2018-4, Chapter 175—Zoning –Breweries, Cideries, and Distilleries**: Ms. Visintainer stated that the purpose of this ordinance would allow all breweries, cideries and distilleries as permissible under the same conditions as wineries in Caroline County. On motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the Commissioners unanimously enacted Ordinance #2018-4, Ch175—Zoning –Breweries, Cideries, and Distilleries. Because the Ordinance was enacted at least ten days after the public hearing, it becomes effective immediately.

On motion by Commissioner Levensgood, seconded by Commissioner Franklin the Commissioners adjourned **Legislative Session**.

Consent Agenda: The following items were approved by unanimous consent

- FY2018 4th Quarter Contingency Expenditures
- Resolution #2018-020, Disposal of Surplus Equipment, 2000 Backhoe
- P.O #2019-64, Alban Tractor & Jesco, Inc, John Deere Tractor & Backhoe, \$94,000,00
- Employment Contracts, Department of Emergency Services – EMS – Paramedic (Cohey, James)
- Employment Contract, Department of Emergency Services – EMS – EMT-B (Eskridge)
- Caroline Goes Purple Grant Agreement from the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention
- Waterway Improvement and Infrastructure FY2020 Grant Application for Ganey’s Wharf Boat Ramp Channel
- Waterway Improvement FY2019 Grant Agreement for Choptank Marina
- Appointment to the Department of Social Services Advisory Board (Reedy)
- Reappointment Caroline County Constructions Trades Board (Smith)
- Appointment to the North County Water and Sewer Authority Board (Knotts)
- Appointment to the Upper Shore Work Force Investment Board (Smith)
- Thank you for Serving Caroline County Burial Site Board (Winters, Kelly)

Action Agenda: On motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Porter the Commissioners approved P.O #2019-65, Alban Tractor & Jesco, Inc, Mini Excavator and Trailer, \$82,239.55. Commissioner Levensgood voted against the motion.

County Administrator’s Report:

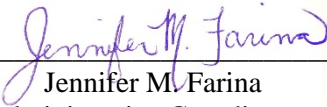
- Mr. Decker stated that the Department of Public Works is continuing to retreat and resurface roads before the winter months.
- He congratulated Sue Simmons and the entire Recreation and Parks team on finalizing the 30th year of Summerfest.
- Mr. Decker told the Commissioners that the Code Enforcement Officer Mr. Hampton, contacted the property owner whose structure was falling into the Choptank River. The owner stated that he would take action to fix this situation.
- He explained that he had a good meeting with the architect to discuss the three phases of electric for the new Sheriff’s Office. He stated that he would be reaching out to Choptank Electric to discuss this project.

Commissioners Open Discussion Period:

- Commissioner Franklin stated that he received information from a county citizen who had a question regarding impact fees and how land could be transferred through families. The Commissioners stated that they would like to have a discussion about this topic on their upcoming work session on August 21st.

- All three Commissioners stated that they attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Choptank Community Health facility in Denton and gave a special thanks to Sara Visintainer for all of her dedicated work as a Choptank Community Health Board member.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



Jennifer M. Farina
Administrative Coordinator